Notes from 2/14 working group meeting

In attendance
Initially:
- Guy from Sun
- Clayton from Netscape
- Shon from Microsoft
- Scott from Microsoft

Arriving later:
- Randy from Borland
- Brendan from Netscape

Next meetings
2/24 teleconference 11 am - 1 pm West Coast time (organized by Scott)
2/28 in-person in the Bay Area (organized by Guy, precise location TBD)

Review status of contributions
Randy's to-do list:
Proposal for extending the range of dates.

Brendan's to-do list:
ToString(Number)

Guy:
Updated doc that incorporates changes from the tele-conference and today's meeting.

Shon:
Email object model section to Guy.
Revisions of Ch. 4 and 6 based on activation/arguments/this changes.
(Guy will not work on ch. 4 and 6 so we can avoid merging problems.)

Resolved issues
Semantics of numeric literals. We adopted Clayton's proposal with minor modifications (e.g., 17 rather than 21 digits). Agreed that this is legal:
var x =
0x11111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111
and that if there are enough 1's, it is just equivalent to infinity.
This isn't really specified at all today. So this is a work item now we have a direction.

Order of evaluation for assignment. Resolved: we agree on what we have in the doc today.

7.10 Meaning of && and ||. We'll do them the PERL way rather than the Java way.

* Relational operators. "Or" becomes "And" in step 7.

* Activation and arguments
  * The Activation object does not share identity with the arguments object
  * For call, if the base object is the activation object, it gets replaced with null.
  * The Activation object is not exposed in the language
  * "arguments" is a built-in local. If the user defines a local or a parameter named "arguments", then
    the built-in "arguments" is not accessible.
  * The "arguments" built-in local has the attributes set [DontDelete]
  * Should the arguments object include local variables? No.
  * Remaining issue: semantics for multiple engines
  * Semantics of "foo.arguments", as opposed to "arguments".
    * this is just a compile-time thing. So #1 would works but #2 does not.
    * only works inside the function foo.
    * Cases:
      1. alert(foo.arguments.length)
      2. x = foo.arguments; alert(x.arguments.length)
  * foo.arguments has [DontEnum]

Review open issues
* Versioning.
* 7.8 Equality operators -- consider comparing (null == undefined).
By Friday's conference call, Netscape agrees to decide the scope of page breakage that is caused by null != undefined, which is the way this is spec'd now.

* Non-1970 dates. We will discuss this as an issue. We will not discuss a date type. Waiting for a proposal from Randy. Shon raised an interesting sub-issue -- that you can do SetYear(96). Does this mean 96 A.D. or 1996?